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RAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Index all names

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REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
Washington, D. C.	Bureau	11/2/64	10/15 - 10/19/64

TITLE OF CASE

WALTER WILSON JENKINS

REPORT MADE BY

SA ROBERT H. EGAN

TYPED BY

pjh

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

- C -

ENCLOSURE: Copy of material contained in medical file of Walter Jenkins on file at the dispensary at The White House as made available on 10/17/64 by Admiral George G. Burkley, White House Physician. (See Exhibit A)

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA: This report has been prepared to set forth in report form the results of interviews conducted by the Liaison Section and Crime Records Division.

This report has the following sections:

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

~~8/25/94 SP9CLC/Sh CN267,293~~
~~Classified by per agency letter dated 11/18/91~~
~~Declassify on: OADR~~ p. 66

ENCL. BEHIND FILE

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

MADE:

ENCLOSURE

Bureau - Enc. (2) (161-2848)

161-2848-812

REC-65
REC-129
ST-108

NOT RECORDED
14 DEC 16 1964

File 9

destroyed

additional enclosure attached - Interview with Jenkins

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

NOTATIONS

DEC 5 1964

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FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Date October 16, 1964

MAJOR GENERAL CHESTER V. CLIFTON, Military Aide to the President, was interviewed October 16, 1964. GENERAL CLIFTON stated a part of his job was to insure that essential intelligence data from the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other sources was funneled to the President. GENERAL CLIFTON said that the bulk of this highly classified data was handled on a need-to-know basis.

GENERAL CLIFTON said that PRESIDENT KENNEDY perused such data on an almost daily basis and that during his administration MR. O'DONNELL was frequently furnished material to be directed to the President for his information. GENERAL CLIFTON said that MR. JENKINS, who held the position analogous to the position held by MR. O'DONNELL in the KENNEDY Administration, showed no interest in such material and had never on any occasion called him requesting intelligence data. GENERAL CLIFTON also said there is an International Situation Room at the White House which is under the direction of BROMLEY SMITH and to his knowledge WALTER JENKINS had never called this office to request any intelligence data.

The General stated that the intelligence data that the President was required to see was generally furnished to the President directly for "night reading" and would be returned to him and that MR. JENKINS never saw such data.

According to GENERAL CLIFTON there is certain material which always accompanies a Presidential party and which must be available in the event of a national emergency. The military office at the White House discussed the handling of this most highly classified information which is always with the Presidential party with MR. JENKINS. MR. JENKINS explained that he normally did not accompany the President on his trips but remained to keep an eye on things at the White House and, therefore, there was no need for him to be briefed regarding this highly classified material which accompanied the President at all times, because it would not be practical.

GENERAL CLIFTON said that he normally sat in on National Security Council meetings and that MR. JENKINS sat in on some of these conferences. He said MR. JENKINS had never made any post-conference inquiries regarding intelligence matters which were discussed nor did MR. JENKINS at any time express interest in this broad general field of intelligence.

On 10/16/64 at The White House File # 161-2848

by SA Harold P. Leinbaugh and Inspector Edward C. Kemper Date dictated October 17, 1964

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He indicated that all requirements were complied with in the furnishing of a White House pass and, therefore, the Identification Record showing the January, 1959, arrest was merely put in file without any further action being taken.

During 1961 Vice President JOHNSON maintained an office in the Executive Office Building directly across the street from the White House. Mr. JENKINS, as Mr. JOHNSON's top assistant, spent part of his time in this office and part of his time at the Capitol. His White House pass was good for both the White House and the Executive Office Building. Mr. ROWLEY said even though this was not his decision, apparently it was felt that Mr. JOHNSON asked for the pass and the USSS was given the appropriate request together with the necessary clearances and the pass was issued without further question.

Mr. ROWLEY said there is no set standard for furnishing information to the White House itself on information coming to their attention on White House staff members. He indicated that it would depend on the substance of the information as to whether a report would go to someone in the White House if such information should be reported to the USSS. He indicated that at times this has been done but repeated that it would depend on the substance of the allegation.

Mr. ROWLEY said that the January, 1959, arrest information dealt with a member of the Vice President's staff and a White House staff member, and that the interest of the USSS was only to issue a pass.

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CONFIDENTIAL

Date October 15, 1964

P. Kenneth O'Donnell, former Special Assistant to the President, advised he has known Walter Jenkins since 1960, having met him in connection with the Presidential campaign that year. He saw him quite frequently in connection with official matters, and in the last year has had a close association with him. He has had very little social contact with him, however.

Mr. O'Donnell said he knows "no higher class" person than Mr. Jenkins. He considers him a very level-tempered individual but knows he must have felt some strain, some upset, considering the tempo of his work and the tremendous pressure he was constantly under. He said he has never known a man who worked as hard as Mr. Jenkins. He felt Mr. Jenkins was totally overworked, had a most difficult job and was under enormous psychological pressure, declaring that if he had not suffered some problem he would have been "King Kong."

Mr. O'Donnell asserted he certainly never had any reason to even remotely suspect that Mr. Jenkins was other than normal, in fact, he pointed out that he considered the matter a crude joke when he first heard the report of Mr. Jenkins' arrest. He stated he would have believed such a charge about almost any other person before he believed it about Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins' associates, according to Mr. O'Donnell, are of the highest quality and character.

Mr. O'Donnell explained that Mr. Jenkins had much the same position and duties under President Johnson as he (O'Donnell) had under President Kennedy. He felt sure, therefore, that Mr. Jenkins had access to any information at the White House on any topic. He said Mr. Jenkins, if he desired, undoubtedly could have obtained any data available to the White House on any subject. He said it is his understanding that Mr. Jenkins sat in on some National Security Council meetings. He explained Mr. Jenkins possessed information which undoubtedly would make him a likely target for blackmail but he was positive Mr. Jenkins would never give in to any such attempts.

Mr. O'Donnell said everyone he knows who is acquainted with Mr. Jenkins has the highest respect for him, and all their mutual associates were totally shocked by Mr. Jenkins' arrest.

On 10-15-64 at Suite 700, 1720 K Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. File# 161-2848

by SA David W. Bowers and SA George W. Gunn/bsp Date dictated October 15, 1964

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On October 15, 1964, Mr. JAMES J. ROWLEY, Chief, United States Secret Service (USSS), Washington, D. C., was interviewed by SA ORRIN H. BARTLETT. Mr. ROWLEY advised that during April, 1961, he was Chief of the White House detail of the USSS and, therefore, was not personally connected with the handling of the fingerprints of JENKINS in April, 1961. He consulted the file of the USSS and advised that on April 5, 1961, Mr. WILLIAM HARTIGAN as Assistant to Mr. P. KENNETH O'DONNELL, telephoned the Protective Research Section (PRS) and said that a temporary White House pass could be issued to Mr. JENKINS; that a letter to this effect would be forwarded and that Mr. JENKINS had a "Q" clearance from the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). On the same day a temporary White House pass was issued to Mr. JENKINS. On April 6, 1961, the fingerprints of Mr. JENKINS were obtained and forwarded to the FBI for searching. At the same time a request was made for any subversive information from the FBI. On the following day, April 7, 1961, USSS received a memorandum from Mr. HARTIGAN requesting a White House pass for Mr. JENKINS and stating that Mr. JENKINS had "current Top Secret clearances." On April 7, 1961, Mr. HARTIGAN sent to the USSS a letter dated April 5, 1961, from the National Aeronautics and Space Council stating that Mr. JENKINS had current "Top Secret" clearance. FBI Identification Record #795576-D dated April 10, 1961, was sent to the USSS showing that WALTER WILSON JENKINS was arrested or received by the Police Department, Washington, D. C., on January 16, 1959, on a charge of "investigation suspicious person." On April 19, 1961, USSS received copies of the FBI's Atomic Energy Act investigation which was completed on January 2, 1958. On May 5, 1961, a permanent White House pass was issued to Mr. JENKINS following a review by the PRS of USSS to insure that there had been a proper request from the White House and that Mr. JENKINS had a "Top Secret" clearance. On February 9, 1962, Mr. JENK[illegible] a new form White House pass which was part of the routine [illegible]d White House passes. On January 16, 1964, USSS receive[illegible]tter dated January 15, 1964, from the AEC to Mr. P. KENNETH O'DON[illegible]tating that Mr. JENKINS had an active "Q" clearance by the AEC.

Mr. ROWLEY said that the above chronological facts are all that are recorded in JENKINS' file in USSS. He pointed out that the original request for the White House pass was expedited inasmuch as the Vice President had requested that Mr. JENKINS be given a pass. Mr. ROWLEY said that unless specifically requested to do so, his Service conducts no investigations on White House staff members and no request was received in connection with Mr. JENKINS.

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Interview of Major General Chester V. Clifton at the White House, October 16, 1964

GENERAL CLIFTON reported that he had received a call from MR. DAN MICH of "Look" magazine. Mr. MICH told GENERAL CLIFTON that "Look" magazine had heard rumors out of Chicago "they" were going to drop a "bomb" against the President that would be a real scandal. GENERAL CLIFTON said this call was several weeks ago and it was all entirely rumor and that MICH had no details whatsoever. He said about a week ago MICH had called again on another matter and spoke to him and that he said in passing that he had nothing new about any scandals which might affect security matters. The General said this "scandal information" was passed on to him as only the most casual rumor and that as far as he had been able to tell there was no basis in fact for these stories. He said, of course, it had occurred to him after MR. JENKINS' arrest that the rumor might apply to that particular situation.

No Loc

GENERAL CLIFTON said he had known MR. JENKINS for probably about four years and that he was unbelievably shocked when he heard the news of MR. JENKINS' arrest.

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